

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY L/EA:EGVERVILLE:EA/VN:RHWENZEL:KP

APPROVED BY L:MLEIGH

S/S-O:PJOHNSON

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STADIS//////////

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: VN

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF AMMUNITION PRODUCTION FACILITY  
IN SOUTH VIETNAM

FOR ALDRICH FROM LEGAL ADVISER

1. IN CONNECTION WITH CURRENT CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE RVN  
MILITARY AID REQUIREMENTS, INTERESTED AGENCIES HERE ARE  
TAKING ANOTHER LOOK AT THE FEASIBILITY OF PROVIDING THE  
RVN WITH ITS OWN AMMUNITION PRODUCTION CAPABILITY. WE  
HAVE AT THIS TIME NO SPECIFIC DETAILS ON SUCH A POSSIBLE  
PROJECT. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, HOWEVER, WE COULD ASSUME  
THAT SUCH A FACILITY MIGHT SATISFY SOME OR ALL OF THE  
RVN'S AMMUNITION REQUIREMENTS (E.G., SMALL ARMS, AAA,  
ARTILLERY, AMMUNITION FOR ARMORED VEHICLES, AIRCRAFT  
ORDNANCE, ETC.). WE WOULD ENVISAGE THAT WE WOULD BE  
PROVIDING PLANT AND MACHINERY AS WELL AS NECESSARY  
INSTRUCTION IN ITS OPERATION AND POSSIBLY TECHNICAL

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ASSISTANCE AND SOME RAW MATERIALS AT OUTSET.

2. I WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING YOUR VIEWS AS TO WHETHER THE PROVISION OF SUCH A FACILITY WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH THE PARIS AGREEMENT, IN PARTICULAR ARTICLE 7. IT IS OUR

UNDERSTANDING THAT ARTICLE 7 APPLIES ONLY TO ACCEPTANCE BY THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PARTIES OF QUOTE ARMAMENTS, MUNITIONS AND WAR MATERIAL UNQUOTE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES BUT WOULD NOT PRECLUDE THEIR DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR OWN ARMS PRODUCTION CAPABILITY. IF THIS CORRECT, WOULD ASSUME WE COULD CONSIDER THAT PLANT, MACHINERY AND ANY RAW MATERIALS PROVIDED BY USG WOULD NOT RPT NOT IN AND OF THEMSELVES CONSTITUTE QUOTE WAR MATERIALS UNQUOTE UNDER ARTICLE 7. RELATED QUESTION WOULD BE WHETHER PROVISION BY CIVILIANS OF INSTRUCTION REGARDING OPERATION OF PLANT/ MACHINERY AND ANY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WOULD CAUSE DIFFICULTY UNDER ARTICLE 7 PROVISION CONCERNING ADVISERS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMMUNITION, ARMS PRODUCTION, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchantr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE035290  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** EGVERVILLE:EA/VN:RHWENZEL:KP  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750055-0448  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750238/aaaabijs.tel  
**Line Count:** 79  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchantr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2003 by buchantr>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ESTABLISHMENT OF AMMUNITION PRODUCTION FACILITY IN SOUTH VIETNAM  
**TAGS:** PARM, VN, US  
**To:** GENEVA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006